



ALL DOWN TO THE WIRE!

With only one round to go, it would seem that just one pair is assured of a Top Three finish and that is Larry Chemaly and Sharon Lang who are out front at present with 137.06 VPs. The chasing group are a good few points behind - Terry and Jan East with 118.13 VPs (lying 2nd at present), then in 3rd Duncan Keet and Carol Stanton with 113.77 VPs, just a whisper ahead of Glen Holman and Michele Alexander in 4th with 113.24 VPs and on their heels Andre Van Niekerk and Rose Duff, 110.24 VPs.

Will nerves enter into the competition at all tomorrow one wonders as Larry and Sharon face Terry and Jan?

Nothing in the game of Bridge is ever certain. It is going to be a nail-biting end to the week...

GOOD LUCK to all the players!

♥ Deirdre Ingersent

FINAL DAY – MATCH SCHEDULE

Fri 10-May 10:00	7	1	KEET, Duncan	STANTON, Carol	ZIMET, Erica	REYNOLDS, Paul
		2	CHEMALY, Larry	LANG, Sharon	EAST, Jan	EAST, Terry
		3	WARD, Peter	MODLIN, Merle	DUFF, Rose	VAN NIEKERK, Andre
		4	KING, Phil	BRACHER, Merle	ALEXANDER, Michele	HOLMAN, Glen

MIXED PAIRS FINALS – RESULTS BY ROUND

Players	Rank	TOTAL VPs	C/O VPs	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5		Round 6	
				IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs
Larry Chemaly & Sharon Lang	1	137.06	59.39	33	17.17	18	14.60	-10	7.20	4	11.20	14	13.75	14	13.75
Terry East & Jan East	2	118.13	67.41	1	10.31	-2	9.39	-13	6.48	-13	6.48	7	12.03	-15	6.03
Duncan Keet & Carol Stanton	3	113.77	51.47	17	14.39	3	10.91	14	13.75	-4	8.80	-7	7.97	-13	6.48
Glen Holman & Michele Alexander	4	113.24	58.13	-1	9.69	-24	4.26	10	12.80	-35	2.55	8	12.29	13	13.52
Andre Van Niekerk & Rose Duff	5	110.24	48.99	15	13.97	2	10.61	-14	6.25	35	17.45	-12	6.72	-14	6.25
Peter Ward & Merle Modlin	6	104.32	44.84	-17	5.61	-18	5.40	-9	7.45	52	19.34	-8	7.71	15	13.97
Phil King & Merle Bracher	7	102.60	56.50	-33	2.83	-3	9.09	13	13.52	-52	0.66	12	13.28	-12	6.72
Paul Reynolds & Erica Zimet	8	100.63	33.26	-15	6.03	24	15.74	9	12.55	13	13.52	-14	6.25	12	13.28

Optional Keycard Blackwood & Psyche all Rolled into One!

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<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">W</div> horace1 ♠ AKJ5 ♥ 10653 ♦ ♣ QJ743	<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">E</div> rixi181 ♠ Q98732 ♥ K42 ♦ 652 ♣ A		
	<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">S</div> SweetieE ♠ 6 ♥ AJ87 ♦ Q93 ♣ K9865	5♦ N NS: 0 EW: 0	

Jan East (SweetieE) made a brilliant bid of 4♣ alerted as optional keycard blackwood on this hand. Why brilliant? She had no intention of ever bidding a slam but she wanted to discourage East/West from getting to what seemed like an easy 4♠ or doubling 5♦. Unsuspecting, Terry East (teeast) responded that he was slam suitable and showed 2 keycards without the Q♦ (4NT). He must have been disappointed when Jan stopped in 5♦. The defence was good against this contract. Erica Zimet led her singleton A♣, smartly

switched to a spade and got a club ruff. Despite this good defence, minus 100 for N/S was worth a well earned 4 imps when two E/W pairs got to the making 4♣. Sometimes psychology beats science.

Visualisation

Glen Holman (glensa) made an excellent defensive play on this board when partner led 4th highest spade against East's 3NT contract. What was his reason for not playing third hand high?

If partner has led from a 4-card suit, he can count that declarer has a singleton. This must be an honour or else partner would have led a high card. In this case, there is no point in putting in the Jack. If partner has led from a 3-card suit to an honour, again there is no value in putting in the Jack as declarer must have AK, KQ or AQ bare. In any of these cases, it cannot gain to put in the

Jack. When South won the K♦ and played a low spade to Glen's Jack. Glen carefully cashed the Ace of clubs before returning Spades. One off scored 10.33 imps. Well done!!

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<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">W</div> peter3202 ♠ 10987 ♥ Q43 ♦ Q98 ♣ 1032	<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">♠3</div> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">♠7</div> <div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">♠2</div>	<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">E</div> merl66 ♠ A ♥ AK52 ♦ AJ643 ♣ KQJ	
	<div style="background-color: white; padding: 2px; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block;">S</div> lady mach ♠ KQ42 ♥ J96 ♦ K2 ♣ 8754	3NT E NS: 0 EW: 0	

Walking the Dog

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">6</div>	N ♠ K10 ♥ 1095 ♦ KQ8632 ♣ K6	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">W</td> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">N</td> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">E</td> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	2♦	2♥	2♠	P	P	4♥	P	P	P			
W	N	E	S																
P	2♦	2♥	2♠																
P	P	4♥	P																
P	P																		
W impalaphil ♠ A865 ♥ 4 ♦ 1054 ♣ 98542	E stacey31 ♠ ♥ KQJ8762 ♦ AJ ♣ QJ73																		
	S ♠ QJ97432 ♥ A3 ♦ 97 ♣ A10	4♥ E NS: 0 EW: 0																	

Walking the dog is a tactic in bridge where you deliberately underbid your hand and then come out of the woods and make your final bid hoping to buy the contract. Here, Merle Bracher (stacey31) made a tactical underbid of 2♥ but on her third turn came out of the woods and bid 4♥. When South made the unfortunate lead of the Q♠, it didn't take her long to wrap up 10 tricks. This tactic earned a whopping 14imps. Why such a big swing?

North/South have an easy 10 tricks in 4♠. You be the judge. Who was to blame for N/S missing this easy game?

In my opinion, I assign most of the blame to North who didn't appreciate that when South rebid 2♠ over 2♥, this showed a 6 card and at least an opening hand. Why?

With a weaker hand, South would have made a weak jump overcall the first time, especially at the prevailing vulnerability (not vul vs vul). North should have raised 2♠ to 3♠ but this does not detract from East's tactical underbid.

Walking the Cat?

East paid a heavy price for not taking immediate action after partner made a weak jump overcall in Hearts. Had she bid 3♥ immediately, it would have been very difficult for South to bid again and the spade fit would be lost. Lesson to be learnt is that you should bid to the limit the first time and then keep silent and hope opponents get it wrong.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">1</div>	N Dunx ♠ KJ103 ♥ 43 ♦ 6432 ♣ J82	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">W</td> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">N</td> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">E</td> <td style="width: 10%; background-color: #d9ead3;">S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	2♥	P	P	1♣	P	P	P	2♠	P	P	3♥	P	P	3♠	4♥	4♠	P	P	P		
W	N	E	S																								
2♥	P	P	1♣																								
P	P	P	2♠																								
P	P	3♥	P																								
P	3♠	4♥	4♠																								
P	P	P																									
W horace1 ♠ 8 ♥ KQJ962 ♦ K987 ♣ 96	E rixi181 ♠ 7652 ♥ A1087 ♦ Q105 ♣ K3																										
	S carol2007 ♠ AQ94 ♥ 5 ♦ AJ ♣ AQ10754	4♠ S NS: 0 EW: 0																									

Cashing Out

D 13	N teeast ♠ 542 ♥ 86 ♦ 9876 ♣ J1082	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">W</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">N</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">E</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center; background-color: #ffff00;">1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4♥</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	P	P	1♣	4♥	P	P	P
W	N	E	S											
P	P	P	1♣											
4♥	P	P	P											
W horace1 ♠ Q10 ♥ KQJ10974 ♦ KJ2 ♣ 6	♠ 5 ♠ Q ♠ 7 ♠ K	E rixi181 ♠ J876 ♥ ♦ AQ43 ♣ Q9543												
S SweetieE ♠ AK93 ♥ A532 ♦ 105 ♣ AK7		4♥ W NS: 3 EW: 1												

Defending 4♥ was not as easy as it appears when you look at all 4 hands. North led the J♣ which held the trick. He could see that there was no future in clubs and switched to a diamond. When South won the A♥, she switched to the K♠. Declarer dropped a deceptive Q♠ and a crossroad was reached. Defenders had 3 tricks and South must decide whether to cash a top club or a top spade. How can South know which one to play?

Many players play that on the lead of a King in the middle of the hand, it requests partner to give a count signal. North played the 5♠ showing

an odd number, if playing upside down count. This should have been the clue for South to cash the K♠, as if North has 3 spades (odd number), then declarer has 2. If declarer had a singleton Queen, then North would have 4 spades, and would've played the 2 (even # of cards).

Once the Q♠ appears, North should give a count signal as attitude is known.

4 vs. 11

I've mentioned this point before. When partner doubles a high-level contract for takeout as in this hand, do not bid with a balanced hand. It is much easier to take 4 tricks in defence than to make 11 tricks as declarer, when you are balanced.

D 5	N horace1 ♠ Q5 ♥ QJ4 ♦ Q865 ♣ 10743	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">W</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">N</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">E</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3♠</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4♣</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> <td style="text-align: center;">P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	3♠	X	X	4♣	P	P	X	P	5♦	P	P	X	P	P	P
W	N	E	S																			
P	3♠	X	X																			
4♣	P	P	X																			
P	5♦	P	P																			
X	P	P	P																			
W larryc777 ♠ KJ7 ♥ K8763 ♦ A73 ♣ Q8	E sharrie ♠ A986432 ♥ 10 ♦ 94 ♣ J52	S rixi181 ♠ 10 ♥ A952 ♦ KJ102 ♣ AK96																				
		5♣x N NS: 0 EW: 0																				

A Little bit of Everything...

10 <small>D</small>	N InTime ♠ 962 ♥ 10 ♦ J10765 ♣ J984	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="width: 12.5%;">W</th> <th style="width: 12.5%;">N</th> <th style="width: 12.5%;">E</th> <th style="width: 12.5%;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S			1♣	1♥	P	P	2♣	P	3NT	P	P	P
W	N	E	S															
		1♣	1♥															
P	P	2♣	P															
3NT	P	P	P															
W larryc777 ♠ A84 ♥ Q9743 ♦ Q3 ♣ A53	♥10	E sharrie ♠ KQJ ♥ K6 ♦ 942 ♣ KQ1072																
	S tarankaur ♠ 10753 ♥ AJ852 ♦ AK8 ♣ 6	3NT W NS: 0 EW: 0																

This hand has points of interest in the bidding, declarer play and defence.

Declarer play: North led the 10♥. It looks natural to play the king on this lead as you can later finesse the 9♥ to make an extra trick. However, the last thing you want on the hand is for the defenders to switch to diamonds where they can take a minimum of 4 more tricks. Larry smartly played a low heart and South ducked. 9 tricks were now there for the taking.

Defence: North needs to understand what this bidding means. When West passes originally and then suddenly comes to life with a 3NT bid, this can only mean one thing: He was planning on passing 1♥ for penalties if partner reopened with a takeout double. This makes the lead of a singleton heart unattractive and North has an easy diamond lead which will result in 2 down.

Bidding: What should East do when 1♥ is passed round to her. Bidding 2♣ definitely promises a 6-card suit. When you play negative doubles, you should always be aware that partner might be lurking and waiting for you to reopen with a double. The shortage in hearts and support for the other suits makes it clear that East should reopen with a double rather than rebid a 5-card club suit.

All of the above hands were submitted by Bernard Donde

Novice & Advancing Players' Corner

There are no blind leads, only deaf ones

Leading against No Trumps, we are taught early on to lead 4th highest of our longest and strongest suit. Why? Because making a No-Trump contract or defending a No-Trump contract is a RACE for tricks. It is often a race to see who can set up their longest suit first. What happens in an auction where partner has not overcalled but the opponents have declined to show length in a Major, e.g. 1NT-3NT, 1♣-3NT, etc. If our opponents have not gone via Stayman or no one has shown any major suit length then what do we do? It becomes more likely that opponents have a weakness in one of the major suits and this makes it more attractive to lead a major rather than a minor.

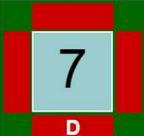
Let's look at a hand from today...

W	N	E	S
			1♣
P	3NT	P	P
P			

E	lady macb
♠	983
♥	K1032
♦	KJ52
♣	32

On this auction North does not have a 4 card Major. Your best chance of setting up your suit before the opponents are able to take 9 tricks is to lead a Major and not a minor suit. The opponents are likely to have more cards in the minors than in the Majors. Even though your diamonds are stronger than your hearts, you should choose to lead hearts for the reasons given above.

Here is the full hand:

	N Dunx ♠ 1076 ♥ AQ8 ♦ AQ4 ♣ J1075	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S				1♣	P	3NT	P	P	P																	
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W glensa ♠ AK42 ♥ J9654 ♦ 93 ♣ 98	E lady macb ♠ 983 ♥ K1032 ♦ KJ52 ♣ 32																															
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <th>E</th> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>8</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <th>W</th> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>8</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Par Score: 110 Par: NS 3♣		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	9	8	5	7	7	S	9	8	5	7	7	E	4	5	8	6	5	W	4	5	8	6	5	S carol2007 ♠ QJ5 ♥ 7 ♦ 10876 ♣ AKQ64	3NT N NS: 0 EW: 0
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																											
N	9	8	5	7	7																											
S	9	8	5	7	7																											
E	4	5	8	6	5																											
W	4	5	8	6	5																											

Note that even though the heart lead allows declarer to win a trick with queen, your side has won the race to get 5 tricks before declarer can get 9.

On the auction given, it would also not be unreasonable to lead high spade hoping to find partner's long suit. On this lead, partner would win the King and would realise that you have 4 hearts (make sure you understand why). He would therefore switch to a heart which allows you to win the race. Leading an initial diamond, however, may be fatal as you have lost the race to set

up a long suit for your side.

The RACE in NT is always to set up the partnership's longest combined suit, so listen to the auction to help you to decide which suit to lead.

Submitted by Carol Stanton

BRIDGE ETIQUETTE!

ALL ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR (T.D.)

The T.D.'s responsibilities include handling all law and rule infractions as well as running a smooth and pleasant game. He is providing a valuable service to the players and must be called in a courteous manner when law infractions, hesitations, rude behaviour or problems of any kind occur and there is NO stigma or personal agenda attached to doing this. The rules were designed to ensure that no-one is prejudiced by an infraction like 'a lead out of turn' or 'a bid out of turn'.

However here is something that should not happen. If someone asks what a bid means when it is not their turn to bid, a player at the table should not shout at them and say it is not your turn to ask but call the T.D. whose duty it is to explain why asking out of turn may give partner unauthorised information which may prejudice the opponents. New players to the game are often guilty of this and one does not want them to be put off duplicate bridge by being shouted at!

As a bridge player one needs to learn the basic bridge laws covering such things as dummy's rights, penalty cards and knowing your responsibilities at the table. This includes entering and checking scores on the Bridgemate. It is best that all players learn how to operate the Bridgemate correctly. At our small Club, correcting mistakes still happens fairly often, and the most common error is entering the contract wrongly!

A question which came up at our small Club was the following. Is it OK for a player when ruffing a trick or discarding to state 'Having None'.

The answer is no, as this could be thought of as imparting information to one's partner. However, it is allowed, and a good idea, for the player's partner to enquire 'Having None?' as it can help to prevent revokes.

This concludes the Bridge Etiquette Series but if anyone has questions, I can perhaps handle them in the next SA Bulletin.

Submitted by Deirdre Ingersent